

25p

THE OFFICIAL PROGRAMME OF WIGAN ATHLETIC

SPRINGFIELD SCENE



Wednesday, 3rd September, 1980 — Kick-off 7.45 p.m.
FOOTBALL LEAGUE CUP, SECOND ROUND, SECOND LEG
WIGAN ATHLETIC -v- PRESTON NORTH END
Tonight's match is sponsored by Publicity Print Services.

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MY POINT OF VIEW



A VERY warm welcome to Nobby Stiles and his Preston North End side. In our game at Deepdale last week,

I was very impressed by the quality of their football, and I look forward tonight to a very entertaining encounter. The game is nicely balanced and I will be hoping we can strike quickly and get back on terms. To a certain extent it reminds me of our non-league days, when, as the under-dogs, our magnificent supporters really got behind us. I hope for similar support tonight.

Aldershot Game

Saturday's two points were most welcome, as the sooner you can get a win under your belt the better. So far very few teams have

managed to gain maximum points, and, if we can win our game in hand, we are right back in the chasing pack. I am also glad to see the crowd getting behind Jeff Wright. After his misfortune at Lincoln, he has come straight back, and his goal against Aldershot was a magnificent hit. Hopefully, we will soon be over our injury problems, and I will have a full squad from which to select my team. We are also very aware of the fact that if we need to strengthen, then we will do so.

Enjoy tonight's match.

I. McNeill

I. McNeill

Wigan's Captain Colin Methven goes in hard to blunt the challenge of North End's Paul McGee. (Photograph by courtesy of "Lancashire Evening Post")

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GREAT NAMES FROM THE PAST

BY HAROLD ASHURST

WITH OUR visitors being the illustrious Preston North End tonight, it is fitting that we take a one-programme break from the great names of the distant past to record a great name of more recent years, former Manager Gordon Milne, who began his footballing career with 'The Lilywhites'. Gordon joined Latics in 1970 and followed in his father's footsteps, for Jimmy Milne was boss at Springfield Park for a short time when Latics were in the Cheshire League just after the war.

Gordon was a half back (a midfield player these days) and began his career with Preston North End in 1958. He then moved on to Liverpool and played in that magnificent side of the mid-sixties alongside other stars such as Ron Yeats, Ian St. John, Roger Hunt and Gerry Byrne. While he was at Liverpool he gained two League Championship medals, an F.A. Cup Winner's Medal and fourteen England caps.

On leaving Liverpool, Gordon joined Blackpool and it was from there that he joined Latics, to take up his first managerial post, early in 1970. Although he guided Latics to the runners-up spot in his first season as manager of the Northern Premier League side, it is for his exploits as player-manager in the famous 1970-1971 season, that Gordon Milne will be remembered by Latics fans. He guided Latics to the Third Round of the F.A. Cup, beating Peterborough United along the way, before Wigan were finally put out by First Division Manchester City after a performance that was rated as one of the best by a Latics team while a non-league side. The Northern Premier League Championship came to Springfield Park at the end of that season and the following year Third Division Macclesfield Town were put out of the F.A. Cup by Latics.

Milne's exploits did not go unnoticed by the top brass in football and while he was at Springfield Park he was appointed manager of the England Youth Team.

It was obvious that he would move on to bigger things and therefore it came as no surprise when it was announced that the popular, thoughtful manager would be joining First Division Coventry City. That was in 1972 and today, eight years later, he is still manager at Highfield Road which makes him the longest serving Manager in the First Division.

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by Fred Eyre

FOR THE third season in succession the reserve team began their campaign on a winning note with a 2-1 victory away at Port Vale.

New Manager John McGrath seems to be sorting the club out a bit because they were a much better side than last season and we had to play well to gain the points. Mick Quinn gave us the lead just before half time with a delightful chip from the corner of the box. This came shortly after

David Glenn had powered a fine header against the crossbar following a run down the left and a picture cross from Jimmy Brown.

We increased our lead midway through the second half, when Mick Quinn got to the goal-line goalkeeper Trevor Dance could only parry his cross out and big Jim Oliver was on hand to gleefully smash it high into the empty net.

We unfortunately conceded a goal four minutes from time but it was not enough for them to deny us a well-earned, hard-fought victory.

Mick Clarke and George McAllister were outstanding at the heart of our defence whilst Davie Glenn's darting runs down the right were a constant problem for the Vale defence.

Team: Ward, Tait, B. Freeman, B. Cunliffe, Clarke, McAllister, Silcock, Glenn, Oliver, M. Quinn, Brown.

Sub: Hendry (Scorers: M. Quinn and Oliver).

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COMMERCIAL CHATTER

WITH THE new season now beginning to get into its stride, sales from the Soccer Shop sited between the Supporters' Club and the Main Stand are also picking up well. With our very regular following it is never easy to gauge just how many "new lines" are going to prove acceptable or just how readily the public will respond to the new design of an item which has previously been very popular. However, business is always brisk on match-days and even in midweek, particularly during School Holidays and near to Christmas and birthdays, we manage to make a few sales even from our rather isolated selling point.

We have recently obtained supplies of hand-painted plaster bases in club colours, leisure shirts, new-style sweaters and scarves, calendars and team photographs and are expecting delivery any time now of enamel badges. Old favourites such as mugs, pennants, supporters' scarves, bob caps, sew-on patches and Wigan Athletic rock, are still available in good quantities. In response to the demands of those supporters who are avid programme collectors, we have placed an order for "programme binders" with Sundancer, the firm that supplied the plastic-covered cushions available for hire in the Main Stand on match-days. The new "binders" will carry the club crest and should be on sale towards the end of the month. If you have not called at our shop recently, why not make it a priority to visit us in the near future. The Soccer

Shop is open between the hours of 9.15 a.m. and 4.45 p.m. on Mondays to Fridays, and before, during, and after every first team "home" fixture.

We are pleased to report that our "Programme Centre" situated between the Supporters' Club and our offices is doing good business. Ian, Barry and Peter who run the centre on match-days not only sell our own programmes, both past and current editions, but also have an offer programmes which have been exchanged with other clubs in return for supplies of our own issues. A limited number of programmes for our "away" fixtures is always available for sale from the Programme Centre.

Tonight's match has been sponsored by Publicity Print Services of Litho House, Warrington Road, Ashton-in-Makerfield, who not only make a first-class job of printing our programme, but also complete other valuable work for the Commercial Department. To PPS directors Tony Gilbert and Alan Roby, and to all their staff, we offer our thanks for your generosity in sponsoring the game and for all your good work on our behalf.

Another good friend of the club Mr. Stan Jackson, through Fred Grimes Ltd., the Motor Dealers of 120, Standishgate, has been most kind in donating tonight's match ball. For this, and other favours, the club is most grateful.

Best Wishes, Jack Sudworth, Commercial Manager.

Letterbox

Springfield Park, Wigan. 1st September, 1980
This issue we again have two prize-winning contributions. James Byrne and Simon Fulllove will both receive complimentary tickets for league games of their choice. Please write soon.
Jack Sudworth Commercial Manager

Hillside, Woodend, Egrement, Cumbria, CA22 2TD.
Dear Sir,

In my opinion, referees are not given a chance, not only at Springfield Park, but at every ground in England. Some say they have put their own heads in the noose, but, if they hadn't, football would grind to a halt without the services of referees and linesmen. They have the hardest job of all, having only the second it takes to put whistle to mouth to reach a decision. If all their decisions went to the home teams, how would that team feel when playing away? If any of the mindless critics would try refereeing just one game, I am sure they wouldn't shout again.

I am sixteen and I have just passed my referees' entrance examination, and notice more than others the rough deal "the man in the middle" gets from spectators. The sooner it ends the better it will be for the game.

Yours faithfully,
Simon Fulllove.

P.S. I would be glad to hear from and reply to, anyone who feels differently about the matter.
Editor's Comment:- A strong letter from a youngster who visits us as often as he is able.
53, Dryden Avenue, Bryn, Wigan, Lancs.

Dear Sir,

First let me congratulate the club on the ground improvements made during the close season. I am sure the ground will be very impressive when all improvements are completed. However, one aspect I think could be greatly improved is the quality of the pre-match entertainment. Surely an effort could be made to obtain some sort of sponsorship agreement with a local record shop. I feel this is necessary as most of the records played are at least a year old and do not create a very good first impression with visitors to the ground.

I trust that an effort will be made in this direction and I pledge my support for the future.
Yours with support,
James Byrne.

Editor's Comment:- A good suggestion, which will be followed up.

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PHOTOFILE



Photograph by courtesy of Lancashire Evening Post

LEFT: Colin Methven goes full length as Mick Baxter performs a fancy piece of footwork to allow Paul McGee a chance at goal.
RIGHT: Roy Tunks, the Preston goalkeeper, takes the ball cleanly in spite of a strong challenge from Neil Davids.



Photograph by courtesy of Wigan Observer



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ON THE BALL No. 4

Every answer has five letters and the first one fits into the top line, but you have to decide where the rest must go.

Inter city; Trainer's ---; --- Batch; Transfer deadline month.



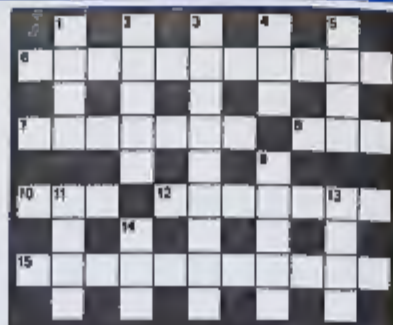
CLUB CLUE No. 4

Solve this cryptic clue to identify a soccer side:

Dover certainly isn't one!

MIXED DOUBLES No. 3

Rearrange the letters in each of the words ABETS and STREETS to find the names of two League Clubs.



SOCCER NINETY-NINER

No. 4 (compiled by David Pack)

ACROSS

6. Major club trophy (8,3)
7. Former League club Gateshead were formed as South --- Adelaide (7)
8. See 4dn
10. Bowyer, maybe (3)
12. South American country that England have played only once (as part of their 1970 World Cup finals warm-up) (7)
15. Dangerous zone for careless tackles (7-4)

DOWN

1. See 14dn
2. BBC Radio commentator (5)
3. Yorkshire club which temporarily resigned from the League during 1919 and whose fixtures were completed by Port Vale (5,4)
4. & Bac. A score draw (and, of course, vice versa!) (3,3)
5. "The Tigers" (4)
9. Country in the same World Cup group as Hong Kong, Singapore, Macao and China (5)
11. Sabella, say (4)
13. One of WBA's big signings a year or so ago (4)
- 14 & 1dn. Liverpool signed him from Chester last season (3,4)

1980/81 series
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Answers on Page 22.



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OUR VISITORS

Ground: Deepdale, Preston.

Year Formed: 1881

Football League Cup best performances: The club reached the fourth round of the competition in 1963, 1966 and 1972



PRESTON NORTH END FOOTBALL CLUB Season 1980-1981 (Back to front) Back Row: Jimmy Bell, Graham Houston, Steve Ellis, Stephen Doyle, Vicky Noughton, Peter Lockhead, Roy Tunke, Ian Barnwell, Dan O'Rourke, Graham Bell, Middle Row: George West, Mark Wylsh, Neil Mannion, Steve Webb, John Anderson, Jimmy Cameron, Simon Whitwell, Seth Hennigan, Mark Wylsh, Neil Mannion, Steve Webb, John Anderson, John Blackley, Harry Hilditch (Trainer), Front Row: Eric Potts, Alex Bruce, Mick Baxter, Gary Gowers, Alan Kelly (Asst. Team Manager), Nobby Stiles (Team Manager), Francis Burns, Brian Taylor, Gordon Coleman.

TONIGHT we are indeed privileged to welcome the Preston North End Football Club to Springfield Park for a very important Second Round, Second Leg Football League Cup game.

"Proud Preston", a founder member of the Football League in 1888, the first club in our soccer history to do the League and F.A. Cup double in 1898-1899, and the home of the almost legendary Tom Finney, O.B.E., J.P., is an institution dear to the hearts of all true Lancastrians. Over the years, fortunes have fluctuated at Deepdale, but the foundations laid down by a succession of sporting gentlemen have stood the club in good stead. Several notable personalities have occupied the managerial chair at Preston, and North End's ability to play excellent football has always been the target which smaller clubs north and south of the Ribble have been eager to emulate. The team currently managed by Nobby Stiles, the World Cup warrior, is also noted for its skill and industry and we can look forward to a feast of entertaining football from two attack-minded sides tonight.

For years Wigan Athletic fans have prayed for a cup-draw against "The Lilywhites" and at last their players have been answered. The first leg of the League Cup-tie was well-fought, and, although Preston North End hold a slight advantage, such are Wigan Athletic's cup-fighting traditions that the game cannot be looked upon as a mere formality by our Second Division neighbours, who like ourselves are finding goals hard to come by this season. We welcome directors, management, staff and supporters of the Preston North End Football Club to Springfield Park. After an enjoyable game, we wish you a safe journey home.

Supporters of both sides are reminded that should the aggregate scores be level after the completion of the two "legs", thirty minutes of extra time will be played. Should the scores remain equal after the completion of extra time, away goals scored in both legs will count "double". Should the scores still remain "draw", the tie will be decided on penalty-kicks.

PEN PICTURES

ROY TUNKE — Goalkeeper — Born Wuppertal, W. Germany. Joined PNE from Rotherham United on the 1st November 1974 for £7,000 making his debut later in the same month at Tranmere Rovers. Whilst with Rotherham had spells on loan with York City, Newcastle United and Ipswich Town. Has been an ever present in League matches during the last two seasons. Ht: 6' 10" Wt: 13st 11lbs.

MICHAEL BAXTER — Defender — Born Birmingham. Joined PNE as an apprentice in December 1971 and turned Professional three years later. Has represented five County Schools F.A. and also Warwickshire Schools F.A. Made his league debut at Grimsby Town in April 1975. Ht: 6' 1" Wt: 12st 2lbs.

JOHN BLACKLEY — Defender — Born Westquarner, Fife. Signed during the Summer from Newcastle United after being given a free transfer. Had twelve years at Hibernian before joining Newcastle in 1977. Selected for the Scottish Senior squad over 27 times and has gained seven full caps. Ht: 6' 10" Wt: 13st 1lb.

DANNY CAMERON — Defender — Born Dundee. Signed for Sheffield Wednesday as an apprentice in 1968 after being spotted playing for Dundee Schools. Turned Professional in July 1971 and made his league debut at West Bromwich Albion in October 1973. Joined PNE in April 1976 on a free transfer. Ht: 5' 6" Wt: 11st 3lbs.

BRIAN TAYLOR — Defender — Born Gateshead. Signed for Coventry City as a Professional in March 1968 and did not make a first team appearance before given a free transfer in May 1971. Moved to Walsall and made over 250 appearances before signing for Plymouth Argyle in October 1977. Was transferred to PNE in October 1978 for a fee of over £30,000. Ht: 5' 10" Wt: 11st 7lbs.

GRAHAM BELL — Midfielder — Born Oldham. Signed Professional for Oldham

Athletic in 1973 from local amateur club Chadderton F.C. Made his League debut in August 1975 against Bristol City and completed over 150 appearances for Oldham before joining PNE in March 1978. Has represented England at Amateur Youth Level. Ht: 5' 9" Wt: 10st 6lbs.

FRANCIS BURNS — Midfielder — Born Coalbridge, Lancashire. Joined Manchester United as a junior and played for them eight years until moving to Southampton in June 1972. Signed for PNE in August 1973 and has represented Scotland at Schoolboy, Youth and U-23 level, also gaining one Full Cap against Austria in 1970. Holder of a European Cup Winners' Medal against Benfica in 1968. Ht: 5' 9" Wt: 10st 10lbs.

GORDON COLEMAN — Midfielder — Born Nottingham. Signed for PNE in August 1973 having previously played for Padstow, Nottingham. Represented Nottingham County Schools at Rugby and Cricket. Versatile player, he has appeared in numerous positions for the club. Ht: 5' 9" Wt: 10st 12lbs.

STEPHEN DOYLE — Midfielder — Born Neath, Glamorgan. Spotted playing for Afan Lido in Port Talbot. Has represented Glamorgan County Schools F.A. Joined PNE as an apprentice in July 1974 and made his League debut at Tranmere Rovers in November of the same year. Has won Welsh Youth and U-21 honours. Ht: 5' 9" Wt: 11st 1lb.

SEAN HASLEGRAVE — Midfielder — Born Stoke-on-Trent. Was an apprentice welder before joining Stoke City in 1968 at the age of 17. Made over 100 League appearances for Stoke before joining Nottingham Forest in 1975. Signed for PNE in September 1977 for a fee of £20,000. Ht: 5' 8" Wt: 10st 5lbs.

ANDREW MCATEER — Midfielder — Born Preston. Local born player who joined PNE as an apprentice in May 1977. Turned Professional in April 1979. Has represented Lancashire Schools F.A. Ht: 5' 9" Wt: 10st 12lbs.

ALEX BRUCE — Forward — Born Dundee. Signed as an apprentice straight from school in April 1968. Turned Professional in April 1970 and made his League debut against Swindon Town in May 1972. Transferred to Newcastle United in 1974 for £130,000 returning to Preston in September 1975. Ht: 6' 8" Wt: 11st 11lbs.

STEPHEN ELLIOTT — Forward — Born Hallowthistle, Northumberland. Joined Nottingham Forest as an apprentice in

July 1975. Turned Professional in September 1976 and made his League debut against Coventry City in August



1978. Signed for PNE in March 1979 for a fee of £95,000 and made his debut against West Ham United on the 17th March 1979. Ht: 5' 11" Wt: 11st 10lbs.

GRAHAM HOUSTON — Forward — Born Gibraltar. Joined PNE as a part-time Professional in March 1978 whilst studying History and Sociology at a local College of Further Education. Turned full-time in July 1979. Ht: 5' 8" Wt: 10st 4lbs.

ERIC POTTS — Forward — Born Liverpool. Joined Sheffield Wednesday in December 1968 from Oswestry Town and made over 150 appearances for them before moving to Brighton for £14,000 in 1977. Played nearly 30 games for Brighton before being transferred to PNE in August 1978. Ht: 5' 8" Wt: 10st 5lbs.

PAUL MCGEE — Forward — Born Sligo Ireland. Joined Sligo Rovers after school. Played with Toronto Metros and Montreal Castors for 4 Summer Seasons.



Joined Queens Park Rangers in 1977, bought by PNE in 1978. Ht: 5' 10" Wt: 12st.

PETER SAYER — Midfielder — Born Cardiff. Joined PNE only last week from Brighton and Hove Albion. Capped by Wales and previously with Cardiff City. Ht: 5' 6" Wt: 10st 2lbs.

PRESTON NORTH END

PLAYER

John Curtis
(Defender)
Birthplace: Poulton-le-Fylde
Place of Residence: Marus Bridge, Wigan.
Date of Birth: 2nd Sept. 1954.
Height: 5'8"
Weight: 10st. 4lbs.
Previous Professional Clubs: Blackpool and Blackburn Rovers
Advice to Youngsters: Have confidence in your own ability, but always be prepared to accept constructive criticism.
John made his debut in League Football with Blackpool on 15th September, 1973, at Brisbane Road in the Orient v Blackpool game. He has made 121 appearances in Football League games.



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A VERY GOOD evening to all our members and supporters, and all supporters from our near-neighbours at Preston. The Staff and Committee offer you a warm welcome to our club.

As most of our members and friends already know the committee in the club have endeavoured to build a social programme in keeping with tradition and I was delighted to learn that our newly-formed Mens' Darts and Dominoes Section has been admitted to the Upholland and District League for the 1980/1981 Season.

I would like to offer my sincere thanks to Mr. John Prior for his efforts on behalf of the club in this direction.

With your permission I will recap on the weekly programme as it will now be organised: Monday Evenings (From September 15th) Men's Section Darts and Dominoes, Tuesday Evenings Bingo Session — Jackpots on Seven 'Houses', Wednesday Evenings "Reserved" for first team games, but possibly mid-week social evenings by arrangement. Thursday Evenings Ladies' Section Darts & Dominoes (Greenall Whitely League), Friday Evenings Bingo Session — Jackpots on Seven 'Houses', Saturday Evenings Concert Night — Bingo — Dancing, Sunday Evenings Concert Night — Bingo — Olde Tyme Dancing — Members Cash Draw.

As I have said in earlier programmes, I am sure

you would enjoy a night at the "Latics" club.

Our congratulations to Mr. Ken Lord, the winner of our members' draw, which had reached £18,000.

Once again it is with regret that we have heard of the tragic death of Mrs. Enion of Beech Hill, one of our regular "Saturday night people" — To Mrs. Enion's family we offer our sincere condolences.

Yours sincerely,
Peter Woods.



NEWS ON

by Chris Gill

ALTHOUGH the season is now a couple of weeks old, no excuse is needed for harping back to some of those hundreds of transfers which went through in the close season. When Latics next go to Torquay United they won't have to contend with Donal Murphy who has left Plainmoor to join Plymouth Argyle in a £65,000 deal. Halifax Town's promising midfield player Mick Kennedy moved across to Huddersfield Town in a £50,000 deal and Mansfield Town sold striker Steve Taylor to Burnley for a bargain £35,000.

Jim Weston rejoined his former team-mate Brian Smith at Torquay United, while he signed for the seaside club from Blackpool for £20,000 while Keith Bowker also moved to Torquay United from Exeter City. There were few transfer deals involving large amounts of cash in the Fourth Division but there was the usual abundance of free transfers. Striker Bill Elliott left Plymouth Argyle for A.F.C. Bournemouth, while the former Chelsea

defender David Webb has also moved to Dean Court from relegated Derby County, and takes over as player-coach.

Lincoln City released defender Brendan Guest and he joined Swindon Town while Torquay United were quick to snap up another defender, Luton Town's Graham Jones. Darlington signed Phil Skipper from Hull City and Dave Speedie from Barnsley, but unloaded Derek Craig, a defender, to York City. Lloyd Richards, a midfield player, joined York City from Second Division Notts. County, while Aldershot took on Newcastle United's Stuart Robinson before releasing Dennis Longhorn to Colchester United.

John Peachey left Darlington for Plymouth Argyle and goalkeeper John Overton joined Northampton Town from Peterborough United.

That list of signings is just for starters, for there will be many more comings and goings before the end of the season.



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SCENE & HEARD

WE HAVE already read much about Wigan Athletic making their "customary poor start" to the season, and for the benefit of the statistical omniscient, we have analysed the early results from Seasons 1978-1979, 1979-1980, and the current season to date.

Comparative figures are as follows:-

Record for Season 1978-1979
After three games Won 0 Drawn 1 Lost 2 For 0 goals - Against 8 goals.
1 point.
After six games Won 1 Drawn 1 Lost 4 For 5 goals - Against 10 goals. 3 points.
After nine games Won 2 Drawn 1 Lost 6 For 8 goals - Against 14 goals. 5 points.

Record for Season 1979-1980
After three games Won 1 Drawn 1 Lost 1 For 5 goals - Against 5 goals. 3 points.
After six games Won 2 Drawn 1 Lost 3 For 10 goals - Against 13 goals. 5 points.
After nine games Won 4 Drawn 1 Lost 4 For 12 goals - Against 17 goals. 9 points.

Record for Season 1980-1981
After three games Won 1 Drawn 0 Lost 2 For 1 goal - Against 5 goals. 2 points.

If the examination were taken still further, to the completion of one third of the league programme (to the end of October in previous seasons), we would find that in Season 1978-1979, games ten to fifteen realised 10 points from 12 points at stake, to give 16 points from 15 games overall. In Season 1979-1980 games ten to fifteen realised only 3 points from 12 points at stake, to give 12 points from 15 games overall.

It follows that what has happened to date is of no

major significance in that the next twelve league fixtures to be played within the short space of seven weeks are likely to give a much clearer picture of the Wigan Athletic Football Club's promotion prospects, than the first three games played. If one accepts that sixty points are needed to clinch promotion, we must be looking to have gained several more points than games played by the rest of October. Certainly, if we cannot gain fifteen points from the first fifteen games played, in the light of past experience it would hardly seem likely that we could acquire 45 points from the last 62 points at stake without a long and spectacular run of success.

Far from being despondent at having lost two of our first three league games, we might have cause to reflect that the early reverses can only serve to stimulate the club into taking steps to gain extra cover against injuries and to quickly come to grips with the problems of strengthening our playing resources. It is too early yet to talk of success or failure, but in seven weeks time we should know whether promotion can be achieved by steady and consistent results or whether our players are going to have to climb the proverbial mountain to give the fans what they expect. — Third Division Football in Season 1980-1981. Certainly the task will be made that little bit easier if spectators can exercise a little patience, remember that no team has a divine right to win every game and "let" the players with loyal and vocal support.

LATICS AWAY

**SATURDAY,
13th SEPTEMBER, 1980.
KICK-OFF 3.00 p.m.**
Football League Division Four

DARLINGTON

- v -

WIGAN ATHLETIC

Take M62 motorway until its junction with motorway A1M. Leave A1(M) by A66(M), then follow A66 to Darlington. At roundabout, take the fourth exit into Victoria Road for the Feethams Ground of Darlington Football Club.

CAN YOU HELP?

Thanks to the generosity and co-operation of our Board of Directors and the Wigan League of Hospital Friends, it is hoped that patients in the local hospitals (Wigan Infirmary, Whalley, Billings and Wroughton) will soon be able to hear a full ninety-minute commentary on all our first team home League and cup matches.

Two or three volunteer commentators may be required and anyone interested in helping to make a patient's stay in hospital a little more enjoyable should contact Mr. H. Carey, 118 Scot Lane, Aspull, or telephone Wigan 832201, giving name, address and any other details thought to be relevant. Auditions will be held, if necessary, before live commentaries begin.

Applicants should also have some or all of the following qualities:-

- A good speaking voice.
- A reasonably wide vocabulary.
- A flair for description (it is no use if the commentator dries up after five minutes), including an ability to appreciate the opposition's good points and the difficulties of the referee and linesmen.

Perhaps, most important of all, a dedication to the job is needed to ensure that a commentary goes out, even when things are not going well for the team.

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The Chairman's Column

This week Mr. Pye has invited Mr. Bobby Charlton, C.B.E., to write an article for the section of the programme normally allocated to the Chairman.

I AM pleased to have the opportunity of contributing to the programme on the occasion of our game with Preston North End. As I have stated previously, I am delighted to be a director of the Wigan Athletic Football Club, and I must reaffirm my intention of working at the job, not from a Manchester base, but from the heart of Springfield Park. In no way will I be accused of interfering with the way in which Ian McNeill wishes to carry out his job. If he wants my help he need only ask, but as ever team affairs are his responsibility, while I have other duties to perform as a director and other talents to offer "my new club".

Tonight's match is something of a special occasion, not only for Wigan Athletic but also for me personally. I shall be eternally grateful to the Preston club for the opportunity which I was given to step straight from a full and active playing career into the administrative and managerial side of football. I learned a great deal at Deepdale, and, although the close relationship between North End and myself eventually came to an end over what I considered a matter of principle, I have many happy memories and I have always been well-received when I have revisited Preston. Anyone who was foolish enough to believe that last week's first-leg fixture would prove an embarrassment to either the Preston directors or myself, was mistaken; the evening was a very friendly and social occasion. I still search anxiously for the Preston North End results, since some of my old players are still in service with the club, and I, in fact, was instrumental in recruiting Nobby Sales from Middlesbrough. Quite naturally I hope that Wigan Athletic do enough to go forward into the Third Round of the Football League Cup for the first time, but, in a way, I am luckier than most tonight, since I have an affection for and an affiliation with both clubs. Whatever the final result, I look forward to a great game of football played in a sporting spirit, and I hope that it will not be too long before we meet Preston North End on a more regular basis.

All my best wishes,

Bobby Charlton.



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ON THE BALL No. 4 Milan, bench, Nigel March.

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BALL PONOR

Tonight's Match Ball has been kindly donated by Fred Grimes Limited, Motor Dealer, 120 Standishgate, Wigan. Telephone No. Wigan 43113.

TEAMS

Wigan Athletic
Royal Blue
& White Stripes)

John Brown

Dave Fretwell

Maurice Whittle

Tommy Gore

Colin Methven

Neil Davids

Dave McMullan

Jeff Wright

Peter Houghton

Bobby Hutchinson

Mike Quinn

Tony Quinn

Preston North End
(Yellow Shirts)

1 Roy Tunks

2 Danny Cameron

3 Andy McAteer

4 Francis Burns

5 Mick Baxter

6 *Don O'Riordan*
John Blackley

7 Graham Bell

8 Gordon Coleman

9 Paul McGee

10 *Gavin Houston*
Peter Sayer

11 Alex Bruce

12 *ELLIOTT*
Stephen Doyle

OFFICIALS

Referee:
TERRY L. MORRIS
(Leeds)

Started refereeing in 1957 in Rotherham then continued via local leagues to the Northern Premier League and then the Football League list. Linesman for European Cup Winners Cup in 1976, refereed the North League Champions v South League Champions in 1976, and the Anglo-Italian competition in 1977. The Queen's Jubilee game between Leeds United and Ajax in 1977, the West Riding County Cup Final. Linesman Semi-Final F.A. Cup and Referee F.A. Vase Final in 1978.

Refereed West Riding Senior Cup Final in 1979. A married man he is a Lecturer in Business Studies at Leeds Polytechnic. Is a qualified F.A. Coach, also interested in cricket and music.

Linesmen:
Red Flag
R. J. Millward
(Stafford)
Yellow Flag
S. Sefton
(Liverpool)

HERE NEXT

Saturday, September 6th, 1980.
Kick-off 3.00 p.m.

**WIGAN ATHLETIC -v-
PORT VALE**

Football League Division 4